

Michigan Envirothon

sponsored by the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts www.michiganenvirothon.org – 517/324-4421

Outdoor Conservation Competition Seeks Participants

EAST LANSING – Jan. 7, 2008 - High school students with an interest in the environment and who enjoy the outdoors are encouraged to participate in the Michigan Envirothon.

The Michigan Envirothon is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts and gives students the opportunity to learn about the environment by working with natural resources professionals from state, federal and other conservation organizations. Any high school student in Michigan is eligible to participate in the Envirothon.

The Envirothon is an outdoor competition at which teams of high school students are challenged on their environmental knowledge and understanding for the honor of representing their county, region or state at the next level of competition. In Michigan, regional competitions are held in March and April in preparation for the state competition. In 2008 the state competition will be held at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie on May 15 and 16. The winner of the Michigan Envirothon will represent the state at the Canon Envirothon, to be held in Flag Staff, Ariz., that includes teams from across the United States and Canada.

During the Envirothon competition teams are tested in an outdoors, hands-on setting, on seven conservation topics including, aquatic ecology, energy, forestry, soils/geology, sustainable agriculture, wildlife and recreational impacts on natural resources. Each team also completes a community outreach project addressing a natural resources concern in their community. At the state competition, teams will submit a written report on their outreach project as well as a presentation to a panel of judges.

Students interested in participating in the Michigan Envirothon should register as teams of five students with up to four alternates and must have an adult advisor. The deadline for registering for the Michigan Envirothon is February 15 and there is a \$100 registration fee.

The Michigan Envirothon was established in 1994 and in 2007 19 teams, including 115 students, participated in the state competition. For more information about the Michigan Envirothon including registration materials call the Michigan Envirothon coordinator at (517) 324-4421 or e-mail at mienvirothon@macd.org.